

The Department of Commerce is monitoring the situation on a daily basis, and out of an abundance of caution, and to prevent a possible violation of federal law, the Department of Commerce is asking for a one-time funding fix from Congress to avoid the furlough of Patent Office employees.

The Trademark Office, as distinct from the Patent Office, within PTO has a surplus of \$60–\$70 million. Without asking for new monies from Congress, the Treasury, or other agency programs funds, this bill before us would provide an immediate and one-time-only borrowing option that is accompanied by a statutory repayment period. In 1999 and 2005, the opposite situation occurred, and the Trademark Office received assistance from Patents totaling \$24 million.

In order for Americans to prevail against this economic downturn, and to remain competitive globally, we need to ensure new technologies, innovation, and products are fully funded. The new concepts and ideas promoted by the work of PTO are drivers for American economic recovery and growth.

At such a time as this, America should be looking for its next Thomas Edison, Bill Gates, or Steve Jobs.

This bill simply lets the USPTO's patent operation borrow from an existing balance held by the trademark operation, and only if reasonably necessary to avoid employee furloughs or a reduction in force. Payback of any borrowed funds is assured by a temporary surcharge on patent fees.

This is a crucial juncture for the PTO. We need to remain at the cutting edge of global technological progress and achievement, or we risk lagging behind other nations.

The bill amounts to an insurance policy for the USPTO to make sure it can cover its payroll for over 9,000 federal employees. I ask my colleagues to support it.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. GLENN THOMPSON

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 8, 2009

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, pursuant to the Republican standards on earmarks, I am submitting the following information regarding earmarks I received as a part of H.R. 2997, the Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Act, 2010. The entity to receive funding is the Pennsylvania State University, 117 Old Main, University Park, PA 16802, in the amount of \$771,000. Funding will be used for research that protects the safety of dairy products for Pennsylvania and the nation.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. LYNN JENKINS

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 8, 2009

Ms. JENKINS. Madam Speaker, pursuant to the Republican Leadership standards on earmarks, I am submitting the following information regarding earmarks I received as part of

the FY 2010 Agriculture Appropriations bill, H.R. 2997:

Earmark: Polymer Research at Pittsburg State University

Requesting Member: Congresswoman LYNN JENKINS

Bill Number: H.R. 2997

Account: National Institute of Food and Agriculture, RE/FA Account

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Pittsburg State University

Address of Requesting Entity: 1701 S Broadway, Pittsburg, KS 66762

Description of Request: Provide an earmark of \$1,500,000 to make contributions in the use of cellulosic fibers of wheat straw, corn stalks, and grasses (all grown in abundance in Kansas) to convert them to fillers for a new family of plastics that would be cheaper and require less energy to manufacture, and also be more friendly to the environment. This is a good fit at Pittsburg State University due to their certified program in Plastics Engineering Technology. Continued Federal endorsement and funding for these activities will build upon their past successes in the area of polymeric oils for use in polyurethanes. If the United States is to become independent of foreign oil producers, then we must pursue industrial sustainability by continuous innovation, improvement and use of clean technology to reduce pollution levels and consumption of resources. At the Kansas Polymer Research Center, they can apply knowledge of biochemistry to develop processes to produce new bio-based products more efficiently than the chemical processes we have been using.

Earmark: Wheat Genetic Research

Requesting Member: Congresswoman LYNN JENKINS

Bill Number: H.R. 2997

Account: National Institute of Food and Agriculture, SRG Account

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Kansas State University

Address of Requesting Entity: Anderson Hall, Manhattan, KS 66506

Description of Request: Provide an earmark of \$240,000 to map and sequence the wheat genome through the Wheat Genetic and Genomic Resources Center (WGGRC). The WGGRC gene bank currently maintains 12,000 lines and these collections are continuously expanding as the Center acquires, develops, and distributes new genetic and genomic resources to facilitate wheat genetics, genomics, and breeding research. Kansas State University and Kansas wheat producers have already made an investment of almost \$1.0 million towards the purchase of a DNA sequencer and a robot for arraying and printing of DNA filters. This request will collect, conserve, and distribute wheat genetic and genomic resources; develop improved germ plasm; develop genetic stocks; develop genomic resources; and support training and outreach.

Earmark: Grain Sorghum

Requesting Member: Congresswoman LYNN JENKINS

Bill Number: H.R. 2997

Account: National Institute of Food and Agriculture, SRG Account

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Kansas State University and Texas Tech University

Address of Requesting Entity: Anderson Hall, Manhattan, KS 66506, and 2500 Broadway, Lubbock, TX 79409

Description of Request: Provide an earmark of \$515,000 to permit the Great Plains Sorghum Improvement and Utilization Center (GPSIUC) to expand existing research and educational programs, particularly in genetic improvement and sorghum utilization. Sorghum is one of the most drought tolerant crops in the world, offering many potential advantages as a food, feed and bioenergy crop to the rural economies of the Great Plains.

Earmark: Water Conservation

Requesting Member: Congresswoman LYNN JENKINS

Bill Number: H.R. 2997

Account: National Institute of Food and Agriculture, SRG Account

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Kansas State University

Address of Requesting Entity: Anderson Hall, Manhattan, KS 66506

Description of Request: To provide an earmark of \$69,000 to help: (1) agricultural producers, both crop and livestock; (2) rural communities in water-short areas; and (3) state and regional agencies to implement economic technologies and policies that will result in water conservation and prolong the life of the Ogallala aquifer in the face of increasing competition for declining aquifers and over-allocated surface waters. This effort is critical to the economic viability of western Kansas. In many parts of western Kansas, freshwater from both surface and groundwater is increasingly in short supply. Drought, aquifer and surface water depletion, and population shifts have stretched community and regional water supplies to their limits. As groundwater supplies decline or become cost prohibitive, better management of water through conservation, recycling, and treatment of poor quality water for secondary uses becomes even more important.

Earmark: Preharvest Food Safety

Requesting Member: Congresswoman LYNN JENKINS

Bill Number: H.R. 2997

Account: National Institute of Food and Agriculture, SRG Account

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Kansas State University

Address of Requesting Entity: Anderson Hall, Manhattan, KS 66506

Description of Request: To provide an earmark of \$142,000 to expand the University's investigations into (1) the ecology of *Salmonella* in beef cattle, (2) antimicrobial resistance in cattle, and (3) agroinformatics, and (4) animal health diagnostics. These four areas of research have great overlap and synergy and will allow Kansas State University to better identify emerging threats of food-borne and zoonotic diseases associated with food-producing animals. Currently, Kansas State University has an ongoing USDA special project on the ecology of *E. coli* O157:H7 in beef cattle and the environment. This bacterial organism is a major cause of food-borne illnesses in humans.

Earmark: National Agriculture Biosecurity Center

Requesting Member: Congresswoman LYNN JENKINS

Bill Number: H.R. 2997

Account: Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Salaries and Expenses Account

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Kansas State University

Address of Requesting Entity: Anderson Hall, Manhattan, KS 66506

Description of Request: To provide an earmark of \$259,000 to fund the National Agriculture Biosecurity Center (NABC) for Phase III efforts for the development, enhancement and delivery of a targeted National Animal Health Laboratories Network (NAHLN) technical training support program. The funding is required to: (1) build and populate a lessons learned/best practices from NAHLN labs exercises and events; (2) expand animal health diagnostic screening capabilities regionally, including endemic and emerging pathogens (viruses, bacteria, and parasites) as well as prions such as BSE; (3) increase the testing capability and capacity of the Kansas State Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory (KSVDL) in support of the NAHLN mission by conducting research on new methodologies and standardized operating procedures for enhancing and improving the efficiency of NAHLN equipment and laboratories; and (4) develop a training strategy framework for NAHLN laboratories.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. JERRY LEWIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 8, 2009

Mr. LEWIS of California. Madam Speaker, pursuant to Republican earmark guidance, I am submitting the following projects that were included in H.R. 2997, the Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act of 2010:

Requesting Member: Congressman JERRY LEWIS.

Bill Number: H.R. 2997, the Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act of 2010

Project Name: Mojave Water Agency Non-Native Plant Removal

Account: Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Mojave Water Agency

Address of Requesting Entity: 22450 Headquarters Drive, Apple Valley, CA 92307

Description of Request: \$667,000 will be provided to help complete a project to remove invasive weeds from the Mojave River area in cooperating with an ongoing local initiative. The Mojave River serves thousands of acres of federal land, including the Mojave National Preserve. Non-native plants are a constant threat to the Mojave River's ecosystem. Removing them will conserve vast amounts of water, which is a very precious resource in this area. Removal will also protect wildlife and dramatically reduce the risk of flood and fire.

Project Name: Prototype for a National Carbon Inventory and Accounting System

Account: General Provisions

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Environmental Systems Research Institute

Address of Requesting Entity: 380 New York Street, Redlands, CA 92373-8100

Description of Request: This project will develop an online visual mapping and analysis system capable of measuring and displaying

the amount of carbon produced and removed by our nation's farms, ranches, and forests. It will allow for better, timelier, and more coordinated conservation, land management, and environmental policies at the local, state, and national levels. The project will help improve the environment and help our nation's farms, ranches, and forests.

Project Name: Nutrition, Diet, and Lifestyle Research for Longevity and Healthy Aging

Account: National Institute of Food and Agriculture

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Loma Linda University Adventist Health Sciences Center—Lifestyle Medicine Institute

Address of Requesting Entity: 11175 Campus St., Loma Linda, CA 92354

Description of Request: This project will build on fifty years of ongoing research to support the nation's priorities for wellbeing, prevention of disease, and healthy aging. The Institute will conduct research in nutrition and diet and compare the aspects of diet and lifestyle to health and longevity. It will utilize this research to improve the health care system, to increase wellness and prevention of diseases, and to educate the community on the healthiest lifestyles and activities, such as proper dieting and nutrition. The university is situated in Loma Linda, CA, which has one of the longest-living populations in the nation.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. GLENN THOMPSON

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 8, 2009

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, pursuant to the Republican standards on earmarks, I am submitting the following information regarding earmarks I received as a part of H.R. 2997, the Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Act, 2010. The entity to receive funding is the Pennsylvania State University, 117 Old Main, University Park, PA 16802, in the amount of \$233,000. Funding will be used for farm- and community-level educational programs and assistance focused on value added activities. Objectives of this project are to provide research-based extension education to assist small farmers to maintain/develop new economically viable enterprises, provide support to assist small farmers develop and maintain economically viable enterprises, including applying for available and appropriate grants and loans, and helping to build community capacity to sustain growth and development of local agriculture and food sectors.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. TODD RUSSELL PLATTS

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 8, 2009

Mr. PLATTS. Madam Speaker, pursuant to the Republican Leadership standards on earmarks, I am submitting the following informa-

tion regarding earmarks I received as part of H.R. 2997, the Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration and Related Agencies Appropriations Act.

Requesting Member: Congressman TODD RUSSELL PLATTS (PA-19), along with other Members

Bill Number: H.R. 2997—Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration and Related Agencies Appropriations Act

Account: SRG

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Penn State University

Address of Requesting Entity: 117 Old Main, University Park, PA 16802

Description of Request/Justification of Federal Funding:

Penn State University—Improved Dairy Management Practices: Penn State is a public university. Some of the most important challenges facing the dairy industry today lie in the areas of nutrient and emission management. Penn State faculty will use this funding to research nutrient management through cow nutrition modification and the impacts of emissions from dairy operations. In addition, funding will be used to develop new technologies to address problems associated with dairy production in Pennsylvania in an effort to improve water quality, lower impacts of air emissions, and use energy more efficiently. This is a good use of taxpayer funds because the sale of dairy products accounts for nearly half the farm gate value of Pennsylvania's agricultural income. The profitability of Pennsylvania dairy farms is inextricably tied to management decisions that are being made by farmers. (\$243,000)

Penn State University—Milk Safety Program: Penn State would use this funding to identify issues in milk and dairy products safety and seek interventions that can be transferred to producers, processors, distributors, and retailers to continue to improve consumer confidence in the quality of their food supply. This is a good use of taxpayer funds because dairy is the single largest economic component of the Pennsylvania agricultural portfolio. (\$771,000)

Penn State University—Sustainable Agriculture and Natural Resources: Penn State University would use this funding to create a new collaborative research and education program that will help diverse farm operations better adopt more sustainable farming practices. Investment in this special grant would increase field research and demonstration to increase the exposure of farm advisors and farmers to sustainable cropping system practices. Practices to be further investigated include: crop species and cultivars for inclusion in crop rotations that improve the performance of sustainable and organic cropping systems, especially for the Northeast; fine tuning of management guidelines for mechanical control of cover crops and weeds in conservation and no-tillage systems to reduce or eliminate herbicides; factors that better promote conservation of biological control organisms and beneficial soil microorganisms for weed seed predation and management of other pests; and practices that increase soil organic matter. This is a good use of taxpayer funds because the demand for increased farmer understanding and adoption of sustainable farming practices continues to be a high priority in the agricultural community. (\$133,000)